



F-ING MESS

Repairs to elevated tracks will be painful

By Gary Bulso
The Brooklyn Paper

Beginning next week, a subway ride to and from some parts of Brownstone Brooklyn will be a real F-ing pain.

Long-anticipated station closures and diversions to accommodate the rehabilitation of the crumbling Smith-Ninth Street station finally begin Jan. 10, with Queens-bound trains skipping that stop entirely until May 2011.

For service to and from the station, riders can use the G train, which will stop at a temporary platform on the elevated portion of

the Coney Island-bound route. The ongoing work along the so-called Culver Viaduct will also force the Queens-bound F to skip the Fort Hamilton Parkway and 15th Street-Prospect Park stations through May 2011, according to an advisory posted on the Metropolitan Transportation Authority website.

To access those stations, strap-hangers will be forced to travel past their stop and then double back using the F or G trains, which will stop on the express tracks at Church Avenue and Seventh Avenue stations.

The entire project will cost

\$275 million and will conclude, mercifully, in 2012.

Transit spokeswoman Deirdre Parker said renovations are a necessary evil.

"The Culver Viaduct was constructed in 1933 and we really need to do these repairs, and replace steel and concrete," she said. "We apologize for the inconvenience, but this is work that really needs to be done."

In the short term — this weekend, Jan. 7-10 — there will be no F service between Jay Street and Stillwell Avenue. The train will be replaced by free shuttle buses.

CRACKDOWN

Cops to issue tickets for rogue two-wheelers

By Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

Call it a bikelash!

The NYPD has been ordered to begin a borough-wide crackdown that will hit renegade riders for often-overlooked "vehicular offenses" like failing to obey traffic signals and signs, breaking the speed limit, tailgating, and even failure to signal before turning.

Several police sources said on Tuesday that the strict enforcement of safety and vehicle traffic laws — which apply the same to cars as they do to cycles — will begin in a matter of weeks, and that bicyclists caught breaking those rules will be issued a moving violation.

Two-wheelers were stunned to hear that they had risen on the list of police priorities.

"They should focus on drivers, because frankly drivers have more potential to cause harm than cyclists do," said Lacey Tauber, a Williamsburg resident and rider.

Cycling activist Baruch Herzfeld predicted that the enforcement policy itself will be "dangerous" and "ineffective" and could further strain relations between

They see you rollin'



Bad bicyclists beware!

City rules state that bicycle riders must follow the same vehicle rules as car drivers. So with the NYPD about to launch a crackdown, it behooves us all to refresh our understanding of the law. So, for the record, cyclists can be ticketed for:

- Failure to yield to pedestrians
- Changing lanes without signaling
- Riding outside a bike lane (where one exists)
- Speeding
- Tailgating
- Turning without signaling

the city and cyclists.

Mayor Bloomberg will have as much luck getting the NYPD to enforce these violations as he did getting the Sanitation Department to shovel this past snowstorm," said Herzfeld.

Officially, of course, bicycle advocate groups have begrudgingly endorsed the increased enforcement — as long as every driver, in car or on bike

— is treated with an even hand by police.

"Cyclists need to obey the law, just like any other street user," said Caroline Samporaro, a spokeswoman for Transportation Alternatives. "But the NYPD needs to prioritize addressing the dangerous behavior of all street users, whether they be cyclists or drivers."

The crackdown comes as more



The battle for Brooklyn's byways

and more people are turning in their Subarus for Schwinn. In 2009, the bicycle advocacy group Transportation Alternatives estimated that more than 236,000 people bicycle across the five boroughs — 28 percent more than the year before.

At the same time, the city has continued its Bicycle Master Plan, which calls for 200 miles of new bike lanes across town in the next three years. Once that's completed, the Department of Transportation plans to add about 50 miles of bike lane each year until 2030, when it is anticipated that the bike network will be finished.

It also comes as some Park Slopers are lashing out against the city's bicycle lane program, most recently with protests on Prospect Park West, where the bike lane remains a lightning rod, with opponents complaining that

See **BIKES** on page 8

City: 'Shoot the Freak' demolition premature

By Alex Rush
The Brooklyn Paper

Coney Island's amusement operators improperly demolished the "Shoot the Freak" booth on the Boardwalk late last year, the city said.

The Department of Buildings last week cited Central Amusement International, the theme park operators, for demolishing the beloved pinball attraction on Dec. 22 without first obtain-

ing a permit to do so.

The Italian-based outfit is now facing a token \$5,000 fine for the demolition, which is considered premature until a legal challenge to Shoot the Freak's eviction is heard next week, according to city spokeswoman Jennifer Gilbert.

As such, Shoot the Freak owner Anthony Berlingieri was ready to pull out a paintball gun and start firing (that's a metaphor).

"We're dealing with a company that doesn't play by the rules," said Berlingieri, who has become the public face of the eight Boardwalk businesses, including the taverns Ruby's and Cha Cha's, that were evicted in November. "We shouldn't be ousted like this."

Central Amusement issued a statement saying that the company will "fully cooperate with the investigation."

Central Amusement issued a statement saying that the company will "fully cooperate with the investigation."



The Shoot the Freak game in Coney Island was wrongly demolished, according to the city.

Church standoff

Police show up in force in Dyker Heights

By Thomas Tracy
The Brooklyn Paper

An 18-year-old thief sparked a tense two-hour standoff with police when he launched a New Year's Day raid on the borough's only Coptic Orthodox Church — hours after a Coptic church bombing in Egypt put the NYPD on a terror alert.

Michael Agiri, a former congregant of the Coptic Orthodox Church of St. George in Dyker Heights, picked the wrong day to break into the sacred ground at the corner of 11th Avenue and 67th Street: Hours before his 11 a.m. break-in, terrorists bombed a Coptic Church in Egypt, killing 21 congregants.

That explains why a mini-army of cops, including officers in a helicopter, a team of armored cops sporting automatic weapons and a K-9 unit, converged on the church after a worshiper called in a burglary in progress.



Cops prepare to enter the Coptic Orthodox Church of St. George during a Jan. 1 standoff with a thief hiding inside the Dyker Heights house of worship.

"[The Egyptian terrorist attack] happened," said Father Luke Awad. "So the police had an idea that something could happen here."

Police believe that Agiri had entered the church by forcing open a side gate to get into the back yard,

then smashing a back bathroom window.

After receiving the robbery tip, cops converged and cordoned off the area, entering the church with guns drawn. Agiri was found covered in blood.

See **STANDOFF** on page 8

'Cape' caper

Statues shill for new NBC series

By Andy Campbell
The Brooklyn Paper

Holy advertising scheme, Brooklyn!

NBC draped four Brooklyn monuments — ones dedicated to actual legends, like late 1800s Rep. James Samuel Thomas Stranahan — with black capes in a week-long promotion for its upcoming TV show called, "The Cape."

The statues, including Stranahan in Grand Army Plaza, Christopher Co-

lumbus at Borough Hall, Gen. Edward Fowler on Fulton Street in Fort Greene, and George Washington at the foot of the Williamsburg Bridge, started wearing the superhero garb on Wednesday in an attempt to garner ratings for the series, which begins on Sunday.

The idea is for the series to bank in the reflected glow of our borough's genuine heroes. But locals weren't buying it.

It's a fricking cape — what does

See **CAPES** on page 8

STRIP POKER

Will new 'burlesque' club be legit?

By Natalie O'Neill
The Brooklyn Paper

The new operators of a notorious Red Hook bar want to transform the former noisy joint into a "burlesque

comedy club," but neighbors suspect it will morph into yet another rowdy watering hole that will keep them up at all hours.

Paris Burlesque Club — which has

not yet opened at 18 Commerce St. near Columbia Street — is set to replace the grocery store-sized party hall, Hello Brooklyn, where Sunday night crowds once spilled onto sidewalks and management was last year arrested for selling booze without a license.

Neighbors are already lining up to oppose the new owners' bid for

See **STRIP** on page 2



Cooper, the bedbug-sniffing superdog.

11 to watch in 2011

Our guide to the new year's newsmakers

By our crack staff
The Brooklyn Paper

Many people make resolutions. Others make predictions. But what the Brooklyn Paper make lists of the people who will make news in

the new year. So without further ado, here are our 11 to watch in '11.

11 & 10. Steve Levin and Lincoln Restler

The borough's juiciest budding

rivalry will likely bloom into a veritable hate-fest next year as Restler, fresh off a nail-biting state committee victory, ponders his next move. Restler allies believe he can mount a spirited

challenge to Levin in anticipation of challenging the incumbent for Council in three years, but Levin's support remains strong in South Williamsburg and other neighborhoods in his district where he has delivered funding and services in his first year. But if Levin's mentor, Assemblyman Vito Lopez, were to fall seriously ill or become ensnared in an ongoing federal probe, the political landscape in Brooklyn could change dramatically leading to an unpre-

dictable power struggle in which both Levin and Restler will play key roles. And it could all happen in 2011.

9. Anthony Berlingieri

The owner of Shoot the Freak is the face of the Coney Island Eight — the owners of the last remaining vestiges of the old Boardwalk who were evicted last year to make room for the supposedly bigger and better amusement park. Though the bars Ruby's and Cha

Cha's get a lot of attention, it is Berlingieri who will lead the fight, both in the court of public opinion and in the courtroom.

8. Wally Backman

The skipper of the 2010 Brooklyn Cyclones led his fiery minor leaguer to the brink of the championship, so the entire borough is pulling for the Mets organization to bring him back to finish the only job that matters:

See **11** on page 2

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11 TO WATCH...

Continued from page 1
winning a New York-Penn League crown. This winter, the Mets declined to sign common Blackman to Flushing to waste his talent on the talentless Mets, so it's clear that the big league club knows that the Brooklyn job is more important anyway. If Blackman returns to Coney Island, he'll take the Cyclones all the way — then get the demotion to the Mets that he so richly deserves.

7. Christine Holowacz

Greenpoint will become a lot cleaner in the future, thanks to Christine Holowacz. As a liaison to the Newtown Creek Monitoring Committee, Holowacz pulled the feds toward declaring Newtown Creek a Superfund site and pushed ExxonMobil to settle with the state and pay for cleaning up the 17-million-gallon Greenpoint oil spill. This year, Holowacz will have an influential voice determining how two pollution settlements, a total of \$30 million, will be put toward environmental projects in Greenpoint,



Rep. Michael Grimm



Prospect Park goose

such as a new boat house, ongoing storm water management, and even a velodrome.

6. Jack McFadden

Remember that guy from Montreal when we put on the map in 2010 for making the best damn deli sandwich in the borough? Well, he's planning to expand his now-legendary Mile End this year; for now, he's keeping his expansion a secret from us! (A shonda!), but says that it'd be "accurate" to say that he's planning something big. Will he go to Manhattan, where he'll be underappreciated by the tourist crowd at Carnegie Deli, or will he go somewhere more accessible, like near Senior Reporter Andy Campbell's apartment in Bushwick? Only time will tell. Keep an eye on him, Brooklyn.

5. Noah Bernamoff

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4. The Fulton Mall

We normally stick to people on this list, but the Fulton Mall is getting too big to overlook. The Downtown Brooklyn Partnership has gone out of its way to facilitate the retail renaissance,

and now Filene's Basement, SYMS, Aeropostale, H&M, Sephora and even a Shake Shack are on track or already occupying the slow-rising shopping strip — even if it means that we'll lose a couple of Fulton Street staples. And this year should see the construction of the first phase of the gargantuan City Point retail and residential towers, incoming and outgoing tenants (remember Arby's?), and some all-new controversies.

3. Michael Grimm

He's the freshman who went toe-to-toe with popular Democratic incumbent Rep. Mike McMahon in Bay Ridge, and won. This year, Grimm will have his hands full making good on all the promises he made to us in our exclusive interview last year: overhaul the nation's health-care system through "legislation" — that we can all read, we all understand and can implement easily.

Remember that guy from Montreal when we put on the map in 2010 for making the best damn deli sandwich in the borough? Well, he's planning to expand his now-legendary Mile End this year; for now, he's keeping his expansion a secret from us! (A shonda!), but says that it'd be "accurate" to say that he's planning something big. Will he go to Manhattan, where he'll be underappreciated by the tourist crowd at Carnegie Deli, or will he go somewhere more accessible, like near Senior Reporter Andy Campbell's apartment in Bushwick? Only time will tell. Keep an eye on him, Brooklyn.

2. Geese!

According to our park pals Ed Bahlman and Anne-Katrin Trize, the Canada geese count in Prospect Park is up to 283 — dozens more than those slaughtered by federal agents last summer. That likely means a return visit by the jackbooted as-

sassins charged with keeping the skies friendly to passing aircraft. Yes, Prospect Park officials have unveiled a variety of humane methods to keep the waterfowl population down, but let's face it: Brooklyn is just too hot for these avian hipsters to resist. To ward off another visit by Obama's bird-killing brownshirts, some park lovers are preparing to lock arms around the lakeshore this summer, while others plan all-night vigils in the park. One word for federal bird managers: Duck!

And the number one thing to keep your eye on this year is:

1. Cooper the bedbug dog

The notorious bloodsucking bedbug infestation of Brooklyn is only going to get worse next year. Lucky for us, where there are bedbugs, there are bedbug-detecting dogs. But Cooper the bedbug beagle is a sniff above the rest — with nearly 100 positive bedbug alerts at city offices and residences in 2010, Cooper will be the top dog to watch next year.

"Cooper is a two-in-one dog: he's a watchdog and a democracy," he likes bedbugs, and he hates bedbugs," said the beagle's manager, George Shee of Park Slope. "It's his patriotic mission to track them down — it's not about the money, it's about lifestyle and the American way."

We've had our own runs-in with the dastardly mites — and the dogs who find them — so believe us when we say that the enemy will be even more resilient next year, and the only nose that knows how to stop them is Cooper's. He's been labeled as one of the elite Bed Bug Super Dogs, because like many bedbugs in spring, Cooper is out for blood.

Trouble began in 2008, when the space was renamed Hello Brooklyn and was operated by a dance-party promoter, whom residents say packed the space beyond capacity. The problems were not just the crowds, but what they did.

On Jan. 16, Det. Rene Samaniego of the 76th Precinct arrested Hello Brooklyn servers for selling booze without a license.

Community Board 6 will take up the issue on Jan. 24 at 6:30 pm at PS 58 (330 Smith St. at First Place in Carroll Gardens, (718) 643-3027).

"Far be it from me to protest a legal small business," said Lou Sones of Community Board 6, who owns a bar. "I'd support it."

Whatever Ruggiero's plans, he hasn't yet reached out to Brooklyn's homegrown talent in the legitimate flesh trade.

"I'm surprised," said Dea Washbasco, founder of Wasbasco Burlesque, whose stars include Gigi La Femme and the legendary Nasty Canasta. "If something new is happening and it's authentic, I almost always hear about it."

The venue was once a jazz club called Red Hook Blue and later became a concert hall with live rock music and

STRIP...

Continued from page 1
a difficult-to-get cabaret license, saying they prefer a good night's sleep to a good night on the town.

"Everybody knows the word 'burlesque' is used to mask the words 'strip joint,'" said Bill Sullivan, who has been fighting noise in the neighborhood for two years. "I can't even tell you what a nightmare it's been."

Club operator David Ruggiero promises to follow noise regulations and insists that his "burlesque" perform-

ers will not simply be naked ladies.

"If I can't do this legit, I'm not gonna do it at all," said Ruggiero, who added that he has run clubs before, though he declined to say which ones. "This will be a place for talent, set up like a speakeasy."

Some Red Hookers welcomed Ruggiero's plan — so long as customers don't congregate on the sidewalk at week hours of the morning near the mouth of the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel.

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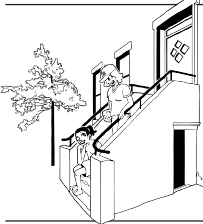
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THE SLOO

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

PARK SLOPE



Supporters and union activists rallied over the summer for Jeff Bauer, a former barista at Ozzie's coffee bar in Park Slope, which fired him. Now a federal labor board is getting involved.

Labor pains

Federal panel sides with 7th Ave Ozzie's barista

By Alex Rush

The Brooklyn Paper

A barista who claims that he was fired from Ozzie's coffeehouse because of his union affiliation is being backed by the government in his fight to get his job back.

The National Labor Relations Board, which protects workers' rights to organize, issued a complaint against the Park Slope java joint on Dec. 15 for firing Jeff Bauer last summer.

Now Ozzie's, which has two locations in the nabe, must either settle with Bauer out of court or face a hearing with an administrative law judge, which could get Bauer his full-time job back, plus full back pay, according to Board spokeswoman Nancy Cleeland.

There is little dispute over what started the chain of events that led to Bauer's dismissal last year. Bauer, who worked at the Seventh Avenue location of coffee bar for nearly a year, said that his problems started when he yapped to customers about a hostile confrontation he witnessed between a co-worker and Bernadine's boyfriend.

"I was so distraught by the argument because I saw the boyfriend grab my co-worker's arm," Bauer said. "Later, customers asked me why I looked upset so I told them what happened."

Bauer thinks that Bernadine got wind of his gossiping and took revenge by halving his full-time hours.

That's when Bauer called upon the International Workers of the World, a century-old union to demand that manager Raphael Bernadine restore his slashed hours.

Instead, Bauer was fired. And that's where the stories diverge. Bauer believes he was sacked because he sought union protection — which would be a violation of a 1935 federal law that prohibits businesses from firing an employee for union activity. But Ozzie's owner, Alton Azula, maintains that Bauer's charges are severely overinflated. Bauer was not fired because of his union status, said Azula, but because he failed to meet Ozzie's customer service standards. "I'm flabbergasted by this," said Azula, who claimed that in his 17 years as the owner of Ozzie's has never seen an employee act like this. "We treat our employees well, but he was constantly complaining to customers and it was hurting our business."

Indeed, co-owner Melissa Azula's termination letter to Bauer made no mention of his union activities, citing only "poor performance" and "customer complaints" as the reasons for the sacking.

BAY RIDGE

Call this 'Kettle' black

Bar owner stole \$1M from taxpayers

By Helen Klein

The Brooklyn Paper

The owner of a popular Bay Ridge watering hole is headed to the slammer for stealing nearly \$1.2 million in tax revenue from the city and state.

Thomas Casatelli, a former firefighter and owner of Kettle Black, at Third Avenue and 87th Street, pleaded guilty last Wednesday to two felonies stemming from his theft of the money from New York taxpayers in the form of

sales taxes that he collected, but did not hand over to the taxman, between June, 2005, and August, 2010.

In addition, the 40-year-old Casatelli admitted to shorting the city and state of \$44,654 in withholding taxes by paying employees off the books, as well as to under-reporting his personal income when he paid his city and state income taxes.

By failing to pay his taxes, the defendant stole from honest taxpayers, said Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance.



Thomas Casatelli

In pleading guilty, Casatelli agreed to pay back

\$1,326,940, including penalties, interest and underpaid worker's compensation premiums. He will pay back \$580,135 before he is sentenced on March 10. Casatelli's plea deal also includes a 90-day jail sentence.

Ridgites who know Casatelli for his generosity to worthy causes are standing by him.

Diane Hunt, who organized a charitable event at Kettle Black in 2005, said that Casatelli went out of his way to make the fund raiser for the St. Baldrick's Foundation — which is dedicated to helping young cancer victims — a success. "You couldn't meet a nicer person," Hunt added.

RED HOOK

Smoke on the water!

Pol: City needs green solution to pier pollution

By Gary Buiso

The Brooklyn Paper

Toxic fumes from cruise ships continue to poison Red Hook because a two-year-old plan to make the smoke-belching tourist boats more environmentally friendly is stalled in a fight over a different kind of green.

As the massive Queen Mary 2 pulled out of pollution at its Pier 12 dock on Monday morning, lawmakers again called upon the state and city to finally work out an agreement to build a \$15-million power station to allow cruise ships to plug in to the mainland electrical grid — instead of relying on their diesel engines, which emit noxious fumes whenever the ships are in port.

"It is time for the cruise ship terminal to stop choking Brooklyn," said state Sen. Daniel Squadron (D-Carroll Gardens), who organized the rally with Councilman Brad Lander (D-Park Slope). The slicking point appears to be over who will pay the hefty annual cost of going green.

Carnival Cruise Lines has agreed to retrofit its vessels to allow them to plug into the electrical grid, costing it \$1-52 million per ship, said spokeswoman Jackie Chase.

But the company — part of an industry that economic



Politicians, including Councilman Brad Lander (at the podium) rallied near the Red Hook Cruise Ship terminal on Monday to protest emissions from the big boats.

development officials say brings over \$1 billion to the city each year — is not prepared to pay the entire electric bill; taxpayers will have to chip in, too.

But the city and the New York Power Authority, which provides electricity to utility companies such as Con Edison, haven't determined who will subsidize the cruise ships' switch from diesel to electric. Using electrical power is considerably more expensive — to the tune of an additional \$1.2 million a year.

a facility. The rest of the capital money is coming from a \$3-million grant from the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

Residents said they can't wait for the bureaucratic squabbling to end. "It's hard to breathe some days in Red Hook," said Pioneer Street resident Stephanie Batchelder, who wore a baby blue surgical mask, sunglasses, and an oversized Incredible Hulk fist, which she said represented her "justifiable rage."

"Our kids are breathing in known carcinogens," said Pioneer Street resident Adam Armstrong. "It seems real callous not to deal with this when people are suffering."

The terminal opened with great fanfare in 2006 — and without an environmental review because the pier had already been active for cargo operations.

WILLIAMSBURG

Eleven heaven

Condos cab from brink

By Aaron Short

The Brooklyn Paper

Call it the comeback condominium of the year!

Williamsburg's Warehouse 11 has emerged from the brink of bankruptcy earlier this year to sell out 92 percent of its 120 units to Thanksgiving.

Broker David Maundrell of

tributes the popularity of the building at the corner of 11th and Reeling streets to a combination of two factors — its proximity to McCarren Park and the L train, and prices that are comparatively lower than other recently built condo buildings.

"There's a value for this location," said Maundrell of the real-estate firm Apartments and Lofts.

Built in 2006, one year after the neighborhood was rezoned to allow large condominiums near the waterfront, the seven-story residential complex arrived at the height of Williamsburg's housing boom, but got off to an inauspicious when contaminated soil was found underneath the ground and had to be cleaned up.

The building started out with prices ranging from \$399,000 for studios to \$715,000 for a penthouse duplex, but its financing floundered and its developers wound up making several trips to bankruptcy court to stave off foreclosure.

Now, Apartments and Lofts has sold 99 units and signed contracts with future owners for another 11 condos.



The Warehouse 11 team includes (from left) Warehouse 11 Brad Phillips, Jennifer Lee, David Maundrell, Corinne Troia, Sasha Perez, Serkan Ozturkcan, and That Rosst.

The building's amenities include a common rooftop deck and courtyard, gym, yoga room, recreation room, and a concierge and doorman. And since construction, an array of restaurants, bars and shops have opened up on nearby Driggs, Union and Metropolitan avenues, adding to the building's allure.

According to Maundrell, 90 percent of his clients are first-time homebuyers, and about 40 percent of the building's owners are from the city while another 40 percent are moving from other parts of Brooklyn.

"The rezoning solidified the growth in Williamsburg, a great neighborhood one to three stops from Manhattan with substantial parkland and new parks are being created," said Maundrell. "People still want to be in Williamsburg."

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The ball dropped — on him!

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights-DUMBO-Boerum Hill-Downtown

A thief stole electronics out of a car parked on Jay Street — while the victim was watching the ball drop in Times Square.

The vehicle's owner told cops that he left his wheels near York Street on Dec. 31, and headed into the so-called "Crossroads of the World" for the annual festival of shivering and bladder control.

When he returned to his car at 11 pm on New Year's Day, he discovered that the side window had been shattered and his iPad, laptop and cash were gone.

Metrotech theft

A quick-handed creep swiped a woman's purse as she exited the Jay Street-Metrotech station on Dec. 23.

The woman said she was walking out of the station, which is near Willoughby Street, at about 11 am when the perp ran by and grabbed her purse — which contained a cellphone, cash and cards.

POLICE BLOTTER

Find more online every Wednesday at BrooklynPaper.com/blotter

C snatch

A stranger stole a woman's iPhone on the C train in the Hoyt and Schermerhorn streets station on Dec. 27.

The victim said that she was holding her phone out when the train stopped pulled in at about 5:45 pm. That's when the thief ran by, snatched the expensive device and ran out of the train car just before the doors closed.

— Andy Campbell

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope

Chop shop

A violent would-be saleswoman bashed another woman inside a Fifth Avenue shop after she refused to buy an item on Dec. 28.

The victim told cops that she was inside the boutique, which is at Warren Street, at

him and demanded his cash, ring and cellphone.

The bicyclist evaded the thugs by abandoning his wheels and running into a building. But he crept back outside a few moments later to get his bike — only to come face to face with the thieves once again.

The goons shot him and took his property, leaving him with flesh wound.

— Thomas Tracy

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge-Dyker Heights

Fake plumbers

Two bums jacked jewelry from a 72nd Street house af-

ter scamming an 80-year-old woman into letting them in.

The victim told cops that she was near her home, which is between Sixth Avenue and Gating Place, at around 4 pm when the pair of perps, dressed as plumbers, approached and said that they needed to check for a water main break.

The lady welcomed them inside, but was later horrified to find that they had jacked her jewelry while she was in the next room.

Colonial Caper

Thieves swiped gold jewelry and a Dell laptop from a Colonial Road apartment on New Year's Eve.

The victim told cops that she had left her crib, which is between 71st Street and Mac-

Kay Place, at around 7:40 pm. When she returned early this year, three watches, a necklace, a pair of earrings, a bracelet and her computer were gone.

A neighbor told cops that she saw two unknown dudes loitering outside the apartment just after midnight.

Con fusion

Some unsatisfied customer swiped the purse of an employee at a Fourth Street Asian fusion restaurant.

The working woman told cops that she was manning the register at Illusion, which is between 68th Street and Bay Ridge Avenue, at around 2 pm.

She left her purse on the counter behind her, and someone swiped it when she wasn't looking. The satchel contained cash and cards.

— Alex Rush

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Oh, no! The thief got the vibrator!

90TH PRECINCT

Southside-Bushwick

A thief stole \$250 — and, more important, a vibrator — from a Kcap Street apartment on Dec. 23.

The perp broke into the apartment at around 6:30 pm, took the items, and headed back outside toward Hope Street, where a witness confronted him.

"Stand back or I'll cut you," the perp threatened before running off toward Metropolitan Avenue.

Time push

At least two victims were mugged with the "What time is it?" scam last week. Here are the details:

• In the first crime, two thugs approached their victim with the chronological query on Graham Avenue near Moore Street at around midnight on Dec. 31. With the victim distracted, the other thug stole his phone.

• Two days later, thieves used the same scam to rob a man on Manhattan Avenue. The victim was near Varot Street at 10:20 pm on Jan.

2, when two thugs asked for the time. Before the man could answer, one of the thugs said, "Give me everything in your pockets."

The victim coughed up \$50.

Graham robbery
Four perps checked and robbed a victim on Graham Avenue on Jan. 2.

The victim told cops that he was near Scholtes Street at around 12:50 am when a thug approached from behind, grabbed his throat and rifled his pockets.

One perp promised, "Don't move if you don't want to get hurt," but a third perp ignored that vow and pummeled the victim in his head before they all fled with a phone and wallet.

Bad Santa?

A thief stole a video game console and a cellphone from a Montrose Avenue apartment around the holidays.

The perp broke into the apartment near Humboldt Street after its tenant left on Christmas Day. When the ten-

ant returned on eight days later, he found his window lock broken and his stuff taken.

Club robbery

Two perps spoiled New Year's celebrations at the South Fourth Bar and Cafe, taking \$250 from its register and frightening four revelers just after midnight.

The perps entered the bar on S. Fourth Street just after the new year began, and one asked for a Bacardi and Coke.

After the bartender refused the perp's request, the other thug locked the door, pulled out a black pistol, and ordered the bartender to open the cash register, and throw the money on the floor.

Meanwhile, the first perp rifled the partygoers' pockets and didn't take anything.

"Get the f--- out of here or I'm gonna kill you!" he threatened.

But the good news? After the thugs fled toward Berry Street, the New Year's revelers continued.

Wheel bad

At least two cars were swiped last week:

POLICE BLOTTER

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Used her noodle

Two perps robbed a woman of her purse and her groceries outside the Montrose Avenue L-train station on Dec. 29 after following her for several blocks.

The perps bumped into the woman at Manhattan Avenue at 12:35 pm when one said, "Drop your bags. I have a f---ing gun. Give me everything!" She dropped her purse and a bag of pasta — and the perps took them both before escaping toward Montrose Avenue.

Graham cracker
A teenage perp tried to steal a man's iPhone on Graham Avenue, but instead punched him in the face on Dec. 29.

The perp and several teenagers approached the man near Devoise Avenue at 12:39 am when one of them tried to grab the iPhone.

When the victim refused, the boy punched him in the face and they all fled.

99-cent robbery
Two perps stole property from a Grand Street 99-cent store on Dec. 29 and then punched a witness in the face who was trying to foil the crime.

The perps entered the store at 4:16 pm, and pocketed three hats and five car warmers. The owner tried to stop them, but one hit his face with a weapon and fled the store, which is near Graham Avenue.

A witness tried to stop them, but the perps punched and kicked him in the head.

Berry bad
A thief stole a computer, iPod and other electronics from a S. First Street apartment on Dec. 28.

The tenant left their apartment, which is near Bedford Avenue, at 6 pm, but when they returned six hours later, they found their stuff was gone.

— Aaron Short

94TH PRECINCT
Greenpoint-Northside
Stoop id

A thief punched a woman

in her face and ripped away a woman's purse as she was sitting in front of her home on N. Eighth Street on Dec. 31.

The woman was on her stoop at 11:50 pm when the perp approached, punched her and grabbed her purse before fleeing toward Havemeyer Street.

Fig Newton

A thug robbed a woman on Newtown Street on Dec. 31, taking her cash and phone.

The perp approached the woman on Manhattan Avenue at 12:35 pm when one said, "Drop your bags. I have a f---ing gun. Give me everything!" She dropped her purse and a bag of pasta — and the perps took them both before escaping toward Montrose Avenue.

Unlucky lottery
A perp robbed a McGuinness Boulevard gas station on Jan. 1, preferring some guaranteed cash instead of chancing it with a lottery ticket.

The perp entered the store near Calver Street at 11:20 am, pulled out a \$10 bill, and asked for lottery tickets.

When the manager turned his back, the perp shouted, "Get on the ground!" and removed \$900 from the cash register. He left the lottery ticket.

Shutter bug
A perp stole a camera and its lens from a N. Eighth Street apartment on Dec. 29.

The perp broke into the apartment near Berry Street at 4 am while its tenant was asleep.

The female burglars,

Car talk

At least two cars were swiped last week.

• A thief stole a car that was warming up on N. Fourth Street near Berry Street at 3:30 am on Dec. 31.

• A Toyota was swiped from Kent Avenue near N. Seventh Street on Dec. 31. The driver had parked it at 9 pm, but it was gone by 1 am the next day.

— Aaron Short

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene-Clinton Hill

Fatal punch

A 26-year-old man was arrested on Jan. 2 for beating a Carlton Avenue man on New Year's Eve, then leaving him to die.

Suspect Angel Diaz was arguing with 51-year-old Michael Ketter in his victim's building between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue at 10:47 pm when he pushed and punched his opponent, causing the older man to suffer a heart attack.

Instead of calling for help, Diaz ran away, police said. Paramedics rushed Ketter to Brooklyn Hospital, where he died an hour later.

Diaz surrendered to investigators on Sunday, cops said.

Ball dropped
Two far-from-careful New Year's Eve revelers were arrested on Jan. 1 for sparking a car fight on Fulton Street and knocking a woman's teeth out.

The female burglars,

ages 31 and 29, were leaving a bar between Vanderbilt and Clinton avenues at 3:50 am when they jumped the 26-year-old with whom they were arguing, witnesses told police.

Bag boob

A thief swiped a woman's handbag at the corner of Lafayette Avenue and Ashland Place on Jan. 2, but didn't have long to enjoy the goods.

The victim was approaching the corner at 7:25 pm when the thief pushed her to the ground and ran off with her bag — only to be grabbed by cops a short time later.

Snow devils

Two goons jumped a 36-year-old woman at the corner of Greene and Clinton avenues on Dec. 28, taking her handbag after throwing her face first into the snow.

The victim was nearing the corner at 7:30 pm when she was attacked.

iPhone grab

A quick-moving thief snatched an iPhone from a 31-year-old woman as she was leaving the A train into the Lafayette Avenue station on Dec. 29.

The victim was sitting on the train at 12:05 am when the crook grabbed the pricey smartphone and exited the subway car — pulling the struggling woman to the floor as he made his escape.

Car raid

A thief broke into a 2007 Dodge Charger parked near the corner of Atlantic Avenue and S. Oxford Street on Dec. 29, taking an iPod, radio amplifier, credit card and debit card.

— Thomas Tracy



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Left to die on New Year's

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene-Clinton Hill
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Suspect Angel Diaz was arguing with 51-year-old Michael Ketter in his victim's building between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue at 10:47 pm when he pushed and punched his opponent, causing the older man to suffer a heart attack.

Instead of calling for help, Diaz ran away, police said. Paramedics rushed Ketter to Brooklyn Hospital, where he died an hour later.

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Ball dropped
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The female brawlers, ages 31 and 29, were leaving a bar between Vanderbilt and Clinton avenues at 3:50 am when they jumped the 26-year-old with whom they were arguing, witnesses told police.

Bag boob
A thief swiped a woman's handbag at the corner of Lafayette Avenue and Ashland Place on Jan. 2, but didn't have long to enjoy the goods.

The victim was approaching the corner at 7:25 pm when the thief pushed her to the ground and ran off with her bag — only to be grabbed by cops a short time later.

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The victim was nearing the corner at 7:30 pm when she was attacked.

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The victim was sitting on the train at 12:05 am when the crook grabbed the pricey smartphone and exited the subway car — pulling the struggling woman to the floor as he made his escape.

Grate carnage

A group of thugs jumped two men on Ashland Place on Dec. 24. Their weapons? A set of metal grates they had found on the street.

The victims were near DeKalb Avenue at 10:50 pm when they began arguing with the grate-wielding crew, who left one man with cuts to his face and the other with a broken arm.

Vanderbilt loot
A thief raided a Vanderbilt Avenue apartment while the homeowner spent the holidays traveling.

The woman returned home at 7:15 pm on Dec. 29 to learn that someone had ransacked her home, taking a 42-inch television, three laptop computers and \$1,000.

Car raid
A 16-year-old filched a woman's handbag inside the Flatbush Avenue Target on Dec. 26, but was arrested before she could get away with the stolen loot.

The victim was perusing the aisles inside the store between Hanson Place and Atlantic Avenue at 2:15 pm

POLICE BLOTTER

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handbag from a woman celebrating inside the Applebee's on Flatbush Avenue Extension early on Dec. 31.

The woman hung her bag off the back of her chair inside the restaurant between DeKalb Avenue and Fulton Street at 12:30 am. But, 45 minutes later, it was nowhere to be found, she told police.

Purse pinch
Last week's snowpocalypse slowed everyone down — including the thieves who work the embattled Atlantic Center mall.

A 16-year-old filched a woman's handbag inside the Flatbush Avenue Target on Dec. 26, but was arrested before she could get away with the stolen loot.

The victim was perusing the aisles inside the store between Hanson Place and Atlantic Avenue at 2:15 pm

Metrotech theft

A quick-handed crook swiped a woman's purse as she exited the Jay Street-Metrotech station on Dec. 23.

The woman said she was walking out of the station, which is near Wiloughby Street, at about 11 am when the perps ran and grabbed her purse — which contained a cellphone, cash and cards.

84TH PRECINCT
Brooklyn Heights-DUMBO-Boerum Hill-Downtown

Armed nut
A gun-toting thug shot a man in the testicles inside the Farragut Houses on Jan. 2.

The victim — who isn't a resident of the housing project on Nassau Street near Gold Street — told cops that he was in the lobby at about 2 am when the thug walked in and shot him several times in the leg and privates. The jerk fled, and the poor guy was taken to the hospital where he is in stable condition.

— Andy Campbell

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

January 7-13, 2011

Resolution rock

Finally, some New Year's promises that we can keep

By Alex Rush
The Brooklyn Paper

The reason most New Year's resolutions get broken by Jan. 10 is because they're so damn boring. Face it, you live in Brooklyn, so saying, "I resolve to lose 10 pounds," or "I resolve to stop going to Happy Hour every day at Double Window" is self-defeating, not to mention boring. So this year, we're resolving to do all the fun things, drink all the great drinks, and eat all the delicious foods that Brooklyn has to offer. So join us in 2011 as we resolve to ...

FOOD

... **Get a slice at DiFara:** Dom DiMarco has been making sublime pizza at this Avenue J hole-in-the-wall for decades, and the pies are better than ever. But nothing—even the greatest pizzaiolo in the land—lasts forever, so get to Midwood before you miss your chance to watch Dom roll out every pie by hand, grate his own fresh buffalo mozzarella, and clip the basil leaves. **DiFara Pizzeria** (1424 Avenue J at E. 15th Street in Midwood, (718) 258-1367)

... **Order more than just cheesecake at Junior's:** This Downtown institution has been around for more than 60 years, but have you ever gotten a meal there? It's about time you hit up this Flatbush Avenue landmark for a burger or those sublime twin brisket sandwiches (on those fresh onion rolls). The Devil's Food cheesecake, though, is still a must for dessert (sorry, purists).

Junior's (386 Flatbush Avenue Ext. at DeKalb Avenue in Downtown, (718) 852-5257)

... **Experience authentic Middle Eastern eats on Atlantic Avenue:** Years before there was a Trader Joe's or Crop to Cup, there was Sahadi Importing Co. and Damascus Bread and Bakery. The sultan of them all is Sahadi, which opened in 1948 and is still the greatest grocery store around.

Sahadi Importing Co. (187 Atlantic Ave. between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 624-4550); **Damascus Bread and Bakery** (195 Atlantic Ave. between Clinton and Court streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 625-7070)

SIGHTS

... **Appreciate the Narrows Botanical Gardens:** This park is ideal for a spring stroll. Our favorite part is the fragrant path, a trail of flower that's the best-smelling area this side of the Gowanus Expressway.

Narrows Botanical Gardens (Shore Road between Bay Ridge Avenue and 72nd Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 742-4610)

... **Go to the Giglio festival:** There's nothing more Italian than watching 100 bull men carry that 65-foot Giglio while you snack on fried clams and zeppolles. It's the highlight of Our Lady of Mount Carmel's annual feast, a tradition with roots dating back to fifth-century Italy.



... **Check out the Siren Festival:** Even if you don't like art rock or pop punk, it's worth going to Coney Island's annual free rock fest just to see bands with kooky names. Last summer, Cymbals Eat Guitars and Surfer Blood, Ponytail and Holy F*** performed, so we can't wait to find out who's hitting the stage this year.

Siren Festival (Surf Avenue at W. 10th Street in Coney Island) For info, visit siren.villagevoice.com/2010/

... **See a show at the Regina Opera Company:** The company's world-class musical performances in Bay Ridge are a real bargain at \$23, especially for such an intimate setting. Up next? "The Mikado."

Regina Hall (1210 65th St. at 12th Avenue in Bay Ridge, (718) 299-2772)



... **Catch a Eugene Mirman comedy show:** When you think of Brooklyn comedy, you think of Eugene Mirman. The guy started his own wildly successful comedy festival at the Bell House three years ago, named after himself, and starred in Celebrate Brooklyn's first comedy show this past summer, also named after himself. So now it's time to catch his weekly show, returning on Jan. 16.

"Pretty Good Friends" at Union Hall (702 Union St. near Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400)

TO DO

... **Re-learn to socialize in person:** Facebook and other social media

Resolve: (clockwise from top left) Go to the Giglio festival, make your own wine at Brooklyn Winery, run the Idiotrod, eat Dom DiMarco's pizza, go to Junior's, and listen to new bands at the Siren Festival.

sites have killed the ancient art of face-to-face conversation, so this year, we resolve to get out more. For singles, a good starting point would be at Marci Park Bar's monthly speed-dating event. It's held the first Thursday of every month at 8:30 pm, but get there at 7 pm for the drink specials. It's a fine way to loosen up. Another great place is the Black Mountain Wine House on Union Street in Carroll Gardens (it has a fireplace).

Marci Park Bar (462 Union Ave. at Metropolitan Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-4999); **Black Mountain Wine House** (415 Union St. at Hoyt Street in Carroll Gardens, (718) 522-4340)

... **Make your own wine:** At Brooklyn Winery, would-be oenophiles can learn the entire process, from grape-crushing to bottling to even label-making. Just \$600 buys you the course and a 24-bottle case of the wine you produce.

Brooklyn Winery (213 N. Eighth St. between Roebling Street and Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (347) 763-1506)

... **Be an idiot:** The race is on! Teams of five jockeys should find some silly costumes and a shopping cart to duke it out in the Idiotrod, an annual competition at an unannounced weekend in January that mocks the great Alaskan Iditarod by substituting carts for sleds and people for huskies.

Info at www.cartsofbrooklyn.com.

SHOPPING

Gooooaaah!!!

For soccer fans, the ultimate field of dreams isn't out at the Parade Grounds or in McCaren Park—it's in the back of a cavernous new sporting goods store on Atlantic Avenue.

Upper 90 offers the usual variety of sporting goods, uniforms (including an old New York Cosmos jersey) and equipment. But manager Zach Rubin went one step further, building a small soccer field in the back of the gymnasium-sized store.

"We're going to a lot with the turf," explained Rubin. "We'll be doing demonstrations and mini-games. People will be able to run around in their cleats before they buy them."

The field is just one of the main attractions for the 10,000 youth soccer keepers, midfielders, strikers and coaches in Brooklyn. Reasonable prices are another.

Upper 90 (359 Atlantic Ave. between Hoyt and Bond Streets in Boerum Hill, (718) 443-0167). Open Monday-Saturday, 10 am-8 pm and Sunday, 10 am-6 pm.

—Michelle Manetti

EVENT

Pants on fire

Brooklyn, we want to see your unmentionables.

Thousands of folks across the city will be showing some leg on Sunday at the 10th annual No Pants Subway Ride—and this time, Brooklyn will represent so hard that it will be forever known as the Borough of Tightly Whites.

The rules are simple: bring your friends to Maria Hernandez Park in Bushwick or the Old Stone House in Park Slope at 3 pm, get signed up for a group and a specific train, and take off your pants. Act as you normally would on the subway—by reading a copy of The Brooklyn Paper, of course—and if you're questioned, say something along the lines of "I forgot to wear pants today."

Don't worry; it's completely legal. "It's going to be ridiculously epic," said Bushwick resident Eric Alba. "I'm not sure what I'll wear yet, but I'm trying to decide between flashy and bright or small and tight."

The choice is yours.

No Pants Subway Ride in either Williamsburg (Maria Hernandez Park at Starr Street and Irving Avenue) or Park Slope (Old Stone House of Brooklyn at Fourth Avenue and Third Street, Jan. 9, 3 pm. For info, visit www.improveeverywhere.com.

—Andy Campbell

MUSIC

Classic shows

Brooklyn has its own certifiable mini-Carnegie Hall, and you have Simone Dinnerstein to thank.

Since 2009, the Park Slope-based pianist has been bringing first-class talent to PS 321 with her semi-regular classical concert series, Neighborhood Classics.

"I wanted to bring families together to listen to classical music, and doing this in my own neighborhood seemed like a good place to begin," said Dinnerstein, who donates all proceeds from the concert series to her old school.

Dinnerstein is used to making opportunities happen—she self-released her 2007 album, a recording of Bach's "Goldberg Variations," and saw it quickly shoot to the top of the Billboard Classical Chart. Another all-Bach disc, "Bach: A Strange Beauty," comes out on Jan. 19, this time on Sony Classical.

The concert series kicks off on Jan. 9, with award-winning harpist Bridget Kibbey performing an international program that includes Benjamin Britten's "Suite for Harp," Andre Caplet's "A Legend," Kai Goggin's "Every Lover is a Warrior," and an arrangement of Celtic reels.

Neighborhood Classics at PS 321 (180 Seventh Ave. between First and Second streets in Park Slope, (718) 499-2422). Jan. 9 at 2 pm. Tickets \$15. For info, visit www.neighborhoodclassics.com.

—Meredith Deliso

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Dinner Special: Sun-Thurs (bar only), \$4 Martini, \$4 Wine, \$4 Mojito, \$3 Beer

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nym MONTHLY HEALTH TIPS from New York Methodist Hospital

Annual Medical Exams: What You Need to Know

By Emil Baccash, M.D., New York Methodist Hospital

When it comes to getting medical care, many Americans are shirking themselves. Your doctor should be more than someone you call to get a prescription or to deliver a baby. He or she should be an integral part of your life. If your doctor is familiar with your family medical history, your lifestyle, and your overall health, he or she will be in a better position to detect small problems before they blossom into big ones.

In 2011, resolve to take control of your health and wellness by getting annual medical exams. Yearly medical exams are potentially life-saving because most conditions are easier to treat when detected early. The problem is that many Americans are unaware of the tests and examinations they should have performed during their annual check-up. Here is what you should know:

TESTS FOR EVERYONE
Blood Pressure Screening: Have your doctor check your blood pressure at least once a year. This may reduce your risk of stroke, heart attack and congestive heart failure. Normal blood pressure is less than 120 over 80. Doctors define high blood pressure (hypertension) as 140 over 90 or higher.

Cholesterol Test: People over age 20 should know their cholesterol numbers and have them checked regularly. Early detection and treatment of high cholesterol can lower the chances of having a stroke or heart attack. Total cholesterol levels should be no more than 200. Levels of LDL ("bad") cholesterol should be less than 100. HDL ("good") cholesterol can protect against heart attack if levels are at 60.

Colonoscopy: If you are over age 50 (or age 40 if there's a family history of colorectal cancer), have a colonoscopy every ten years to check for pre-cancerous polyps and/or colon cancer.

TESTS FOR MEN
Prostate Exam/PSA: Beginning at age 50, a

man should have a digital exam of his prostate performed to see if there's any enlargement of the gland. An enlarged prostate can indicate cancer or a benign enlargement. In addition to a clinical prostate exam, men over 50 should have a prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test. PSA is a protein produced by the cells of the prostate gland. The protein levels may be elevated when prostate cancer is present.

Testicular exam: A doctor can check each testicle for lumps, tenderness, or changes in size. Most men with testicular cancer notice a growth before seeing a doctor.

Mammogram/Breast Exam: The American cancer society recommends that women ages 40 and older should have a screening mammogram performed every year. For women in their 20s and 30s, a clinical breast exam should be performed as part of a regular exam by a health expert every three years. The doctor will also check the lymph nodes in the underarm area and look for visual abnormalities of the breasts.

Pap Smear: All women should have a Pap smear performed no more than three years after they become sexually active or no later than age 21. The test should be done every one to three years. Women who are at a greater risk of developing cervical cancer (with multiple sexual partners, smokers and those with HIV) should be screened annually.

Bone Densitometry: There is no standard frequency for this exam. Women should have a bone density test by age 65 to screen for osteoporosis.

Exercising, keeping a healthy weight, and not smoking are enough to keep most people in good health. Still, no one can argue with maintaining a good relationship with your doctor through regular visits. Remember problems detected early are much easier to treat.

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WHERE TO

EDITORS' PICKS

SUNDAY January 9



King day

Once a year, you get to see a camel walking down Graham Avenue, thanks to the annual Three Kings Day Parade. But the celebration of Dia de los Reyes is not just a long petting zoo, but essentially one big Jesus birthday party all over again, with food, music and, of course, kids in Halloween-style costumes (except that instead of Spider-Man or witches, they'll be shepherds and angels).

2 pm, Three Kings Day Parade starts at Meeker and Graham avenues in Williamsburg. For info, visit www.threeringsmagos.org.

MONDAY January 10

Pour house

Just because you're poor doesn't mean you don't deserve love (or at least sex). Thankfully, Ian McEneaney has put together "Hundredaire Matchmaker," a singles event where you can meet, greet and get set up with other broke people. It's a quasi-reality show, but audience members also have a chance to meet their future spouses, or at least get soused on PBR.

8 pm, "Hundredaire Matchmaker" at Union Hall 702 Union St. near Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400. Tickets are \$5. For info, visit www.unionhall.com.



THURSDAY January 13

Sonic uke

Catch Bliss Blood and her jazzy ukulele tunes at The Castello Plan, a newish Dittmas Park wine bar that provides a perfect backdrop for the Bushwick singer's 1920s and '30s tunes. For this show, she'll join trombonist Jim Fryer. The music will be great, but don't forget the food at The Castello Plan, which is also excellent (try the roasted rabbit and pumpkin gnocchi).

8 pm, Bliss Blood at The Castello Plan 1213 Corbett Rd. between Westminister and Argyle roads in Dittmas Park, (718) 856-8888. For info, visit www.thecastelloplan.com.

THURSDAY January 13

Hail Gail

We didn't get where we are in the news business without loving Gail Collins — and we remember her back when she was at Newsday. Now a beloved Times columnist, Collins will journey to Fort Greene to read from her latest book about how awesome women are. The book is irrelevant; Collins is always a hoot.

7:30 pm, Gail Collins reads from "When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present." Free. Greenlight Bookstore 686 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200.

FRIDAY January 14



Swell Thel

Make it a great doubleheader by catching our former New York Post pal Thelma Adams read from her family comedy, "Playdate," at Barnes and Noble before heading to Jalopy for the annual tribute to John Hartford, who was bluegrass before bluegrass got cool. Both events will be a joy.

7 pm, Thelma Adams at Barnes and Noble Park Slope 267 Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-9044. 8:30 pm, John Hartford Tribute show at Jalopy 315 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-3214. Tickets are \$10.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, JAN. 7

THEATER, "JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN": Updated version of Henrik Ibsen's classic by Frank McGuinness. \$25-\$35 Sat. night and Sun. matinees. 7:30 pm, BAM Harvey Theater 651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100. www.bam.org.

DANCE, "NUTCRACKER ROUGE": The Nutcracker gets a Baroque makeover. \$25-\$40. 8 pm, Company 200 3002 Broadway at Union Street in Gowanus, www.company200.com.

MUSIC, GOODNIGHT BLUE MOON, SON OF GEORGE, THE SECRET GORDON: 8 pm, Rock Shop 249 Fourth Ave. between Carroll and President streets in Park Slope, (718) 220-5740. www.therockshopny.com.

THEATER, "THE INTERMINABLE SUICIDE OF GREGORY CHURCH": Danton's 100th show. \$3-\$6. 8 pm, St. Ann's Warehouse 38 Water St. at Dock Street in DUMBO, (718) 254-8779. www.stannwarehouse.org.

MUSIC, SUPER MIRAGE: Free. 11 pm, Trash Bar 252 Grand St. at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 599-1000. www.therashbar.com.

SAT, JAN. 8

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN": 2 pm and 7:30 pm. See Friday, Jan. 7.

DANCE, "NEW YORK WOMEN CHOREOGRAPHERS": Featuring performances by Bob Eisen, Catherine Miller and Low Lives Presentation. Free. 6:30 pm, Center for Performance Research 361 Manhattan Avenue between Jackson and Withers Streets in Williamsburg, (718) 349-1210. www.cprny.org.

DANCE, "NUTCRACKER ROUGE": 8 pm. See Friday, Jan. 7.

THEATER, "THE INTERMINABLE SUICIDE OF GREGORY CHURCH": 8 pm. See Friday, Jan. 7.

MUSIC, BIKE AND GASS: 8 pm, Silent Barn 915 Wyckoff Ave. near

SALES AND MARKETS

PARK SLOPE GREENMARKET: Brooklyn's answer to Union Square. 9 am-4 pm, Grand Army Plaza Union Street at Flatbush Avenue in Park Slope, (212) 788-7900, cncny.org.

TEXTILE RECYCLING: Bring clean and dry textiles including clothing, paired shoes, towels, sheets, scarves, hats, bags and belts for reuse or recycling. Free. 8 am-3 pm, Fort Greene Greenmarket, Washington Park at DeKalb Avenue in Fort Greene, (212) 788-7964 and McCann Park Greenmarket Union Avenue at N. 12th Street in Greenpoint, (212) 788-7964.

HOLIDAY TREE RECYCLING: Recycle your Christmas tree and have a cup of hot chocolate and cookies at the Park Slope Council. 10 am-2 pm, Park Circle Enter park at Parkside Avenue and Prospect Park in Park Slope, (718) 260-2500.

READING, PATTON OSWALD: Author of "Zombie Speeching, Wasteland" \$25. 5 pm, Warsaw 261 Driggs Ave. at Eckford Street in Greenpoint, (718) 387-0505.

SUN, JAN. 9

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

THREE KINGS DAY PARADE: Celebrate the last of the Christmas holidays with this colorful festival, which takes over Graham Avenue. 2 pm, Meeker and Graham avenues in Williamsburg. For info, visit www.threeringsmagos.org.

PERFORMANCE

MUSIC, HARPER BROCKET KIBBY: \$15. 2 pm, PS 321 180 Seventh Ave.

meeting, 6 pm, Brooklyn Borough Hall 209 Jerusalem St. between Court and Adams street in Downtown, (718) 596-5410.

Community Board 4, Full board meeting, 6:30 pm, Cobble Hill Community Board 4, Full board meeting, 6:30 pm, Cobble Hill Community Meeting Room 250 Baltic St. between Court and Clinton streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 643-3027. www.brooklynbd.org.

THURS, JAN. 13

Community Board 7, Cabinet meeting, 10 am, Community Board 7 District Office 4201 Fourth Ave. between 42nd and 43rd streets in Sunset Park, (718) 854-0003.

To list an event in the Civic Calendar, e-mail Calendar@nyc.gov.

CIVIC CALENDAR

SUN, JAN. 9

Bill Saunders memorial service. In honor of a longtime Fort Greene district leader. 4 pm, Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church 85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 596-5410.

MON, JAN. 10

Community Board 2 Parks and Recreation Committee. Monthly meeting, 6 pm, Brooklyn Hospital 121 DeKalb Ave. at St. Felix Street in Fort Greene, (718) 596-5410.

Community Board 4 Executive Committee. Monthly meeting, 6:30

pm, Cobble Hill Community Meeting Room 250 Baltic St. between Court and Clinton streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 643-3027. www.brooklynbd.org.

TUES, JAN. 11

Community Board 1, Full board meeting, 6:30 pm, Swinging 60s Senior Citizens Center 211 Avenue St. at Manhattan Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 389-0009. www.cb1brooklyn.org.

WED, JAN. 12

Community Board 2, Full board

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DIY Pizzas

Three chances to learn pie-making from the pros

By Alex Rush
The Brooklyn Paper

It's not delivery, it's do-it-yourself! The pizzaiolos from Roberta's in Bushwick are teaching three pie-crafting classes this January, including one that shows students how to cook with a wood-burning oven.

Anthony Falco and Angelo Womack will run their workshop at Best Pizza on Havemeyer Street, a serious wood-fired slice joint that opened in October.

They'll instruct up to 12 pupils on dough-making, topping distribution and how to properly cook their pies in a



Frank Pinello of Best Pizza.

1,000-degree oven. Those with big backyards can even learn how to construct their own wood-burning oven, like Paulie Giammeo did before he opened Paulie Gee's in Greenpoint.

But you don't need a fancy oven to make a great pizza. Falco and Womack are also offering a more practical workshop that demonstrates how to make a pie in a conventional electric oven. The goal of the class is to show that amateur bakers can still churn out great pies—as long as they hand-knead dough, use uncooked canned tomatoes for the sauce and drizzle olive oil on the crust so that it gets nicely browned in the oven.

"And the best part is that students get to eat the pizza they make," said Harry Rosenblum of the Brooklyn Kitchen, which sponsors the class.

Wood-fired oven class at Best Pizza (33 Havemeyer St. between N. Seventh and Eighth streets in Williamsburg, (718) 389-2981), Jan. 24 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$125; Home pizza-making class at the Brooklyn Kitchen (100 Front St. between Manhattan Avenue and Leonard Street in Greenpoint, (718) 389-2981), Jan. 16 and 23 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$75. For info, visit www.thebrooklynkitchen.com.

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 6

WED, JAN. 12

TALK, ROBERT STEEL: The city's Deputy Mayor of Economic Development addresses the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, 530, 8:30 to 10 a.m. Sheraton Brooklyn (228 Duffield St. between Willoughby and Fulton streets in Downtown, (718) 875-1000 x1161, www.brooklyn.com).

WORKSHOP, PLANNING

A SHORT FILM SHOOT: Adults and teens at in on an actual pre-production session, 56 (per session), 4-9 p.m. ShopTalk Art Gallery (35 Lafayette Ave. at Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 935-0400).

READING, FRANCIS MORRONE: Author of "The Fort Greene and Clinton Hill Neighborhood History Guide," Free, 7 p.m. Greenlight Bookstore (686 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200), abolitionbrooklyn.blogspot.com.

THEATER, "JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN": 7:30 p.m. See Friday, Jan. 7.

THEATER, "THE INTERMEDIATE SUICIDE OF GREGORY CHURCH": 8 p.m. See Friday, Jan. 7.

ROCK BENEFIT: Performances include indie pop artist Ann Ross, experimental hip-hop artist Emily Wells, folk artist Georgiana and electro-pop artist Greene Girl. Proceeds to benefit Sing for Hope, 8 p.m. Southpaw (125 Fifth Ave. at St. Johns Place in Park Slope, (718) 230-0256), www.southpaw.com.

THURS, JAN. 13

BROOKLYN EXPLOSION BOXING: 8:30, 530, Call for times. Masonic Temple (317 Clermont Ave. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene, (201) 348-3149).

RELIGION, INTERFAITH PEACE COALITION OF BAY RIDGE: Honoring Rev. Robert Emerick of the Bay Ridge United Methodist Church, 7 p.m. Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd (7420 Fourth Ave. between 74th and 75th streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 745-8520), www.good-shepherdbayridge.org.

THEATER, "JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN": 7:30 p.m. See Friday, Jan. 7.

TOUR, FORT GREENE: Nelson George and members of the Brooklyn Historical Society kick off the Fort Greene/Clinton Hill Audio Tour, Free, 7:30 p.m. Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church (85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene).

READING, GAIL COLLINS: Author of "When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present," Free, 7:30 p.m. Greenlight Bookstore (686 Fulton St. between South Elliott Place and South Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 246-0200), abolitionbrooklyn.blogspot.com.

THEATER, "THE INTERMEDIATE SUICIDE OF GREGORY CHURCH": 8 p.m. See Friday, Jan. 7.

MUSIC, BLISS BLOOD: Free, 8 p.m. The Catalyst Plan (1213 Cortelyou Rd. near Westminster Road in Ditmas Park, (718) 856-8888), www.thecatalystplan.com.

TV PARTY, ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT: A viewing of the best episodes, Free, 8 p.m. The Bell House (149

SAT, JAN. 15

MUSIC, STEVEN DELOPOULOS AND JOHN PHILIPPO: Greek folk songs, Free, 8:30 p.m. Schnitzel Haus (7319 7th Ave. between 72nd and 73rd streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 856-5400), www.schnitzelhaus.com.

MUSIC, CLASSICAL, CEBT: The Brooklyn Chamber Music Society presents works by Mozart, Haydn, Wolf, Debussy, Ravel, 5:30 p.m. First Unitarian Church (Pierreport Street at Monroe Place in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 858-0718).

READING, HELMA ADAMS: Author of "Playdate," Free, 7 p.m. Barnes and Noble Park Slope (267 Seventh Ave. at Sixth Street in Park Slope, (718) 833-9046).

THEATER, "JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN": 7:30 p.m. See Friday, Jan. 7.

MUSIC, "GOLDEN FESTIVAL 2011": Musicians from over the world come to play Albanian, Bulgarian, Romanian, Macedonian, Serbian, Greek, Turkish, Hungarian, Norwegian, Kloner, Ukrainian, and Georgian music, 5:30 p.m. Grand Prospect Hall (263 Prospect Ave. between Fifth and Sixth Avenues in Park Slope, (718) 859-4759), www.grandprospect.com.

THEATER, "THE INTERMEDIATE SUICIDE OF GREGORY CHURCH": 8 p.m. See Friday, Jan. 7.

MUSIC, JOHN HARTFORD TRIBUTE SHOW: Annual showcase honoring a "newgrass" legend, \$10, 8:30 p.m. Jalopy (1515 Columbia St. between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in Columbia Street Waterfront, (718) 395-2214), www.jalopy.biz.

PERFORMANCE

THEATER, "JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN": 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. See Friday, Jan. 7.

MUSIC, "GOLDEN FESTIVAL 2011": 4 p.m.-2 a.m. \$45. See Friday, Jan. 14.

MUSIC, O'DEATH: The folk band performs featuring Tim Finley and The Goddamn Rattleknake, \$10/\$12 at door, 7:30 p.m. The Bell House (149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510), www.thebellhouse.com.

THEATER, "THE INTERMEDIATE SUICIDE OF GREGORY CHURCH": 8 p.m. See Friday, Jan. 7.

MUSIC, "BETTER DAY A COMING SONGS OF HOPE FROM THE GOSPEL AND SPIRITUAL TRADITIONS": A concert benefiting Pratt Area Community Center, \$20, 8 p.m. Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church (85 S. Oxford St. at Lafayette Avenue in Fort Greene).

SALES AND MARKETS PARK SLOPE GREENMARKET: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. See Saturday, Jan. 8.

OTHER TEXTILE RECYCLING: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. See Saturday, Jan. 8.

READING, ARTIE BENNETT: Author of "The Butt Book," Free, 11:30 a.m. Word Bookstore (126 Franklin Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096), www.wordbookstore.com.

READING, "NEW YORK CEMETERIES: Authors Panel": Featuring author's Steve Dyer, Allan Smith, Alexandra Mosca and Peter Nash, Free, 2 p.m. Brooklyn Historical Society (128 Pierreport St. at Clinton Street in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 222-4111), www.brooklyn-history.org.



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2. Your age ☐ under 25 ☐ 26-45 ☐ 46-65 ☐ 65+

3. How many adults in your household? (Select one)
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 or more

4. How many children under 18 in your household? (Select one)
☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 or more

5. Your annual household income before taxes is: (Select one)
☐ under \$50,000 ☐ \$51,000-100,000 ☐ \$101,000-150,000 ☐ \$150,000+

6. Do you ☐ Own your residence ☐ Rent ☐ Other

Do you plan to move in the next 12 months?

☐ No ☐ Yes If yes, where? (Select one)
☐ Brooklyn ☐ Bronx ☐ Queens ☐ Manhattan ☐ Other

7. Do you own/lease a vehicle? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you own/lease 2+ vehicles? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you plan to purchase a new vehicle in the next 12 months? (Select one)

☐ Buy new ☐ Buy used ☐ Lease ☐ None

8. Check any that you plan to purchase in the next 12 months:

☐ Home improvement services ☐ Vacation ☐ College tuition
☐ Cosmetic/elective medical procedure ☐ Cell phone ☐ Mattress
☐ Electronics or appliances ☐ Financial planning or banking services
☐ Insurance ☐ Furniture ☐ Fine jewelry ☐ Gym Membership
☐ Designer clothing/shoes/accessories ☐ Pet supplies

9. How often do you eat out at (or order in from) a restaurant per month?

(Select one) ☐ 1-3 ☐ 4-7 ☐ 8-11 ☐ 12 or more

From which restaurants, typically? (optional)

10. Check any stores that you have shopped in the past 12 months:

☐ Target ☐ Lowes ☐ Home Depot ☐ Century 21 ☐ Barneys
☐ J&R Music World ☐ JC Penney ☐ PC Richards ☐ T.J. Maxx
☐ Saks ☐ Lord & Taylor ☐ H&M ☐ Radio Shack ☐ Staples
☐ Burlington Coat Factory ☐ Best Buy ☐ Marshalls ☐ Ikea
☐ Harry's Shoes ☐ Macy's ☐ Apple Store ☐ Bloomingdales

11. Check the entertainment/cultural venues you attended in the past 12 months:

☐ Concerts ☐ Movies ☐ Plays ☐ Museums ☐ Sporting events
☐ Street fairs ☐ Bars/night clubs ☐ Aviator ☐ Golf ☐ NY Aquarium
☐ Brooklyn Children's Museum ☐ Free Outdoor Concerts ☐ Coney Island
☐ Prospect Park Zoo ☐ BAM and BAMCinema
☐ Chelsea Piers ☐ Local Theater Groups ☐ Brooklyn Botanic Garden

If yes for sporting events, which of the following did you attend in the last 12 months:

☐ NY Yankees ☐ NY Mets ☐ NY Giants ☐ NY Jets
☐ NY Rangers ☐ NY Islanders ☐ NY Knicks ☐ NJ Nets
☐ NY Liberty ☐ NY Red Bulls ☐ Brooklyn Cyclones

12. Is there anything you especially like/dislike about this newspaper?

13. Where did you get this paper?



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Man, her boys just love her breasts

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My boys so desire to squeeze my boobs. My 9-year-old comestoward me with hands stretched out like lobster pincers. "Squeeze, squeeze," he says hopefully as I dodge and dart.

I try hard to keep it light, to not get angry or shame him or his little copycat brother. I know this is natural human behavior, normal for a young boy (or a boy of any age, really) and I desperately want to make sure they don't feel disgusting for their urges.

We chat openly, even as I fend them off, gently but firmly.

"These are not for you, not anymore," I say.

I didn't get it — and perhaps never have. What's the big deal? Why are men so focused on boobs?

I asked him that again, he adjusted the glasses on his cute freckled face and said, "I think we just look at them and think: FOOD!"

Boobs are sustenance, the only sustenance possible for human life until Nestle and other industrialized capitalist enterprises started manufacturing alternatives.

I'm confused then, why we as mothers get so panicked and concerned over our sons' interest in our

boobs. It makes no sense that we are so grossed out by things that are totally innate.

Now, as I said, I let my little ones know it's hands off, that "private" parts (mine and theirs) are private. I talk to them of the lovely time when I fed them with the self-same breasts they now desire to squeeze; it was a wonderful, beautiful, natural thing I don't want them to feel at all embarrassed about. But that was then, this is now.

I should've bet a boob to talk openly between a parent and a child about body parts, particularly the private ones. If my boys like boobs, mine or anyone else's, I want them to be able to tell me. How else can I help them as they navigate the incredibly confusing journey toward puberty?

Doctors whom I have interviewed about talking to kids about sex all offered up concern that many parents today are afraid even to use anatomically correct words. If we can't not feel comfortable enough to call things what they are, to say "penis" or "vagina" calmly and without shame, it is unlikely that we will be able to speak to a child about how they might feel about such



Fearless Parenting

By Stephanie Thompson

parts and their inexplicable urges regarding them.

So I don't freak out when accosted by my kids, when they stare as I change. But the other day, I did pick up "The Body Book for Boys" and left it around. The kids moaned half-heartedly that they didn't care and didn't want or need it. But I noticed that they did pick it up, helping me in my fight toward telling them things they want desperately to know, but sometimes have to pretend they don't. It is a strange human phenomenon, shame. It can sneak in and cloud kids' healthy understanding of themselves and their burgeoning sexuality. I hope our openness can help us avoid that.

The most important thing is that my boys know I will not get angry at them when they say things to me. Like it or not, I am the person who, along with my hubby, will help determine how normal or abnormal they feel about their sexual self. Gulp.

The Big G and I make a lot of ribald jokes around the house — though he makes more of them because he doesn't have the "Mommy Should"

voice that I sometimes hear in my head. My kids' sense of humor about "boobies" and "balls" and other unmentionables, their giggling references to TV jokes about "making out," means they might feel free to openly discuss these things that Puritanical political correctness often forces kids (and their parents) to hide. We can pretend, but why?

It's not at all PC to say, but I'm glad when my boys talk openly about their obsessions with body parts, theirs and mine. It means I have a little window into what's going on in their brains, a small insight into which synapses are firing when. I don't think, as some do, that talking straight about sex or sexual parts leads to premature hanky-panky. On the contrary, I think it leads to a potentially greater understanding of The Act down the road, when they will be hand-pressed, like all of us are, to make sense of sometimes insensible urges and emotions.

BIKES...

Continued from page 1

it has made the boulevard less safe for pedestrians. Indeed, cops say that's the reason for the coming crackdown: Bicycle accidents are on the rise and people are worried.

"It's a safety concern," said one police source, who couldn't provide any hard data about borough-wide bicycle accidents. "The public feels that we are not strict enough [against bicyclists]."

Police brass said that the public has no reason to fear that the NYPD's new mission against errant bicyclists will hamper their ability to stop other crimes like murder, rape, muggings, burglar and iPhone thefts.

CAPES...

Continued from page 1

a fricking cape or a TV series have to do with Christopher Columbus?" asked Deborah Wajnar, who works near the celebrated explorer-topped plinth.

NBC executives, no doubt, would disagree. The series, after all, follows a "good cop" who's framed for a crime he didn't commit — then he's saved by a circus ringleader who teaches him some sort of super-trick so that he can continue to fight crime under the guise of his son's favorite TV hero.

Get it — hero?

Historic preservationists are also grumbling that the capes cheaper our bona-fide heroes — and commercialize public space.

Plus there's the cost of city workers, who installed the capes on the statues — and promotional kiosks next to them — early on Wednesday morning.

But others, like members of Community Board 6, saw some benefit to highlighting local sculptures, even the larger goal of promoting a TV show.

"In anticipation of the show's focus on heroism, this is a first-of-its-kind campaign to highlight historic statues from around the city," the board wrote in its monthly newsletter. The kiosks next to the statues do mention the heroic contributions of the man on the pedestal, while also directing parkgoers to go back home and hit the couch for some serious TV viewing this Sunday.

STANDOFF

Continued from page 1

ering under a desk in the basement during the painstaking search, cops said.

Agvi was also allegedly caught on a video surveillance camera pilfering the church's collection boxes — probably knowing they'd be stuffed with money donated during a marathon 12-hour New Year's Eve service that ended at 7:30 a.m. that morning.

Awad estimates that the teen pilfered several thousand dollars in donations.

But more shocking to Awad was that a former congregant apparently would have looted the 38-year-old old church that caters to Egyptian Christians throughout the five boroughs.

"When another congregant told me he was, my heart just dropped," Awad said.

Cops charged Agvi with burglary. He had yet to be arraigned by late Monday and attempts to reach his attorney were unsuccessful.

Inspector Eric Rodriguez, the commanding officer of the 68th Precinct, said his officers increased patrols around the Coptic house of worship after the terrorist attack in Egypt, but the heavily armed cops responding to the burglary — members of the NYPD Emergency Services Unit — are always called in to root out criminals who hide inside buildings and refuse to surrender.

"It's regular procedure," he explained.

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Apts. Available	Apartment Size	Monthly Rent	Total Annual Income Range
1	Studio	\$675	\$2,000-\$3,000

* Gas and electric are included in rent.
Applicants will be required to meet the income and additional selection criteria. Applications must be picked up at Georgia's Place: 691 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, NY 11216. Please be sure to include a self-addressed envelope with your request for an application. Completed applications must be returned by regular mail or hand delivery by February 4, 2011. Please be sure to include a self-addressed envelope with your completed application. Applications received after February 4 will be set aside for possible future consideration. Eligible applicants residing in Brooklyn Community Board 8 will receive first priority.

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